

The mission at *St. Croix*, 45 miles south of St. Thomas, was begun by part of Leopold's company, who were engaged to act as overseers of plantations as well as missionaries. The fourteen men and four women had sailed from Stettin, Germany, in November, 1733, but rough weather compelled them to winter in Norway, and it was over six months before they reached St. Thomas, where they stayed twelve weeks and where several of them died. The plan of mixed duties on the plantations, opposed from the start by Zinzendorf, was a failure. Eleven more men were sent in 1735, four dying in two months after their arrival, and soon after the whole enterprise was abandoned. But converted slaves from St. Thomas were sold to owners on St. Croix, and through their efforts a mission pure and simple was attempted in 1740. The two Brethren sent suffered shipwreck and one was drowned, and the enterprise was again abandoned, but was renewed in 1743, and in 1744 occurred the first baptism on St. Croix, the beginning of a work which still endures.

A missionary named Brucker settled on *St. John*, a small island six miles east of St. Thomas, in 1754, and was successful from the start.

At the request of two English plantation owners, a mission was started in *Jamaica* in 1754. During the first four years, these two proprietors, who were themselves members of the *Unitas Fratrum*, gave over \$12,000.00 to the mission. These gifts, however, gave the owners too much prominence in the mission, and made it too secular and too closely related to the plantation management, so although the station (*Carmel*) on this estate was held for seventy years it was never prosperous, and real success in Jamaica did not come until the site of the mission and its management were changed.

Missions were started on *Antigua* in 1756, *St. Kitts* in 1777, and *Barbados* in 1765, though it is well to say that the work on Barbados has never been as successful as on some of the other islands, either numerically or in its effect on the dense population of 966 per square mile—the densest on earth except the Island of Malta. Still many souls have felt its beneficent influence.

The work in the West Indian field has been rather fully treated, as that was the first to be established, and experiences there are typical. The limits of this chapter preclude more than touching on the establishment in other fields. The accounts read like a romance, and are well worth studying in their fuller form.

The second mission undertaken by the Moravians in foreign fields was not in the tropics, but in the arctic regions. The impulse which led Dober and Leopold to offer themselves for service in the West Indies induced Matthew Stach to declare his wish to preach the gospel